

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 L-03 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 OPR-02

SCI-06 DRC-01 DODE-00 COME-00 HEW-08 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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----- 111860

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FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 717

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 10440

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR CO

SUBJ: FMD AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 247190

1. GOC (AGRIC INSTITUTE - ICA) PROPOSES TO ANNOUNCE FMD AGREEMENT IN CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR CHOCO. ANNOUNCEMENT WAS TO BE MADE DEC 28 BUT AT EMB SUGGESTION PROBABLY CAN BE DELAYED TO JAN 2 TO ALLOW SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT IN WASHINGTON.

2. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF DRAFT PRESS RELEASE AS FOLDS: QTE TRANSCENDENTAL SANITARY PROGRAM TO DEVELOP CATTLE URABA, CHOCO AND ANTIOQUIAN TERRITORIES. COLOMBIAN AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE, ICA, AND INDERENA WILL ADVANCE A SPECIAL PROGRAM OF ANIMAL SANITATION AND PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NORTH-WEST REGION OF CHOCO, CONSIDERED AS BASIC, TO PREVENT DIFFUSION OF AFTOSA FEVER BY THE PANAMERICAN HIGHWAY TOWARD COUNTRIES OF THE AREA FREE OF THIS DISEASE, AS ARE CENTRAL AND NORTH AMERICA. THROUGH AN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN GOC AND USG, FINANCING OF THE PROGRAM IS GUARANTEED, THAT WILL HAVE DURATION OF 5 YEARS AND AN APPROXIMATE COST OF UNCLASSIFIED

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US \$10 MILLION, AND WHOSE PROGRAMMING WILL BE IN ACCORD WITH

ADVANCES ACHIEVED UP TO THE PRESENT. THE AREA CORRESPONDING TO THE NORTHWEST REGION OF CHOCO, THE ONLY ONE PRESENTLY FREE OF AFTOSA FEVER, WILL HAVE PROGRAM OF CONTROLLED CATTLE DEVELOPMENT, WHICH WILL COUNT ON RESOURCES TO PERMIT FINANCING OF CATTLE FOR REPRODUCTION AT COSTS ADEQUATE FOR THE REGION. THE SANITARY PROGRAM WILL COVER ALL THE REGION OF URABA AND WILL HAVE AS A GOAL THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FRAGMENTS OF AFTOSA FEVER. THERE WILL BE SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON STRICT CONTROL OF MOVEMENT OF CATTLE TOWARD THE PROJECT AREA, BASED ON MASSIVE VACCINATION, QUARANTINE MEASURES AND DISINFECTION IN CASE OF GERMS, PUBLICITY, EDUCATION OF CATTLE RANCHES AND FOREMEN ABOUT SANITARY ASPECTS. THE URABA REGION WILL BE ABLE TO HAVE THE STATUS OF A FREE ZONE IN ACCORD WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS WITHIN A VERY SHORT TIME. THIS SITUATION WILL PUT THIS ZONE IN A PRIVILEGED POSITION FOR THE SALE OF MEAT TO AFTOSA FEVER-FREE COUNTRIES THAT OFFER BETTER PRICES. INDERENA WILL HAVE THE JOB OF ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PARK NAMED KATIOS THAT WILL PROTECT THE HIGHWAY AND PERMIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TURIST AREAS AND OF STUDIES ON THE FOREST AND FAUNA RICHES OF THE CHOCO JUNGLES. IT WILL ALSO CONTINUE WATCHING OVER THE PROCESSES OF LUMBER EXPLOITATION SO THAT THIS INDUSTRY IS NOT ALTERED AND CONTINUES AS A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY OF CHOCO. THE FRONTIER LINE OF THE HIGHWAY TOWARD THE NORTH WILL BE MADE A ZONE OF GENERAL INTEREST THAT WILL PERMIT PRESERVATION OF FAUNA AND FLORA RESOURCES OF TRANSITION THAT ARE UNIQUE IN THE CONTINENT* IN THE SAME WAY ADEQUATE CONTROL WILL BE ABLE TO BE MAINTAINED OF HYDROGRAPHIC BASINS FOR THE REGION THAT ALREADY HAVE BEEN OPENED FOR AGRICULTURE AND CATTLE. ICA IN COLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORP., WILL ALSO ESTABLISH, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ACANDI, A RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT TO PERMIT TECHNICAL ASSIANCE LOANS TO ALL FARMERS AND CATTLEMEN OF THE REGION. IN THIS PROJECT THE COLABORATION WILL BE COUNTED ON OF THE AGRICULTURAL BANK AND THE CATTLE FUND FOR THE CREDIT PROGRAMS, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN SANITARY CAMPAIGNS FOR THE POPULATION, AND THE ENTITIES REPRESENTED IN THE REGION IN THE OTHER PROGRAMS.

3. REQUEST ANY COMMENTS ASAP. ALSO REQUEST TEXT OF USDA ANNOUNCEMENT WHEN MADE.

WHITE

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